HOUSE . . . . No. 1896

By Mr. Petruccelli of Boston, petition of Thomas M. Menino and others relative to child passenger restraints for motor vehicles. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Thomas M. Menino	Kevin G. Honan
Anthony Petruccelli	Michael F. Rush
Gloria L. Fox	Martha M. Walz
Elizabeth A. Malia	

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 1 of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 striking out the definition of "Child passenger restraint" and
4 inserting in place thereof the following definition:—
5 "Child passenger restraint", a specifically designed seating
6 system which meets the U.S. Department of Transportation Fed-
7 eral Motor Vehicle Safety Standards as established in 49 C.F.R.
8 571.213 which is either permanently affixed to a motor vehicle or
9 is affixed to such vehicle by a safety belt or a universal attach-
10 ment system.

1 SECTION 2. Section 7AA of Chapter 90 of the General Laws,
2 as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out paragraphs 1
3 and 2 and inserting in place thereof the following new para-
4 graphs:—

 5   No child who is fifty-seven inches in height or less shall ride as
 6 a passenger in a motor vehicle on any way unless such child is
 7 properly fastened and secured, according to the manufacturer's
 8 instructions, by a child passenger restraint as defined in section
 9 one.
10   No child who is not required to be properly fastened by a child
11 passenger restraint as required by the preceding paragraph, but
12 who is not older than twelve years of age, shall ride as a passenger
13 in a motor vehicle on any way unless such child is wearing a
14 safety belt which is properly adjusted and fastened according to
15 the manufacturer's instructions.